



# Senator Frank R. Lautenberg

## A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT



### **A Great American Journey: From the Streets of Paterson to the Halls of Congress**

**F**rank Raleigh Lautenberg was born the son of Russian and Polish immigrants who entered the United States through Ellis Island and worked hard to make ends meet. Often saying that his parents “could not pass on valuables, but left him a legacy of values,” Lautenberg grew up poor in Paterson, and many other New Jersey towns, before graduating from Nutley High School.



Lautenberg enlisted in the military at the age of 18 and served in the Army Signal Corps in Europe during World War II. Upon returning home from the war, Lautenberg was able to afford an education at Columbia University because of the G.I. Bill benefits he received for his military service. He graduated with a degree in economics that was presented to him by then-Columbia University President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

After graduation, Lautenberg joined with two boyhood friends to found and later serve as CEO of Automatic Data Processing, better known as ADP, one of America’s most legendary business stories. Always rooted in New Jersey, ADP started in Paterson, later moved to Clifton and is currently headquartered in Roseland. Today, ADP employs approximately 4,500 people in New Jersey and approximately 57,000 people around the world.

Lautenberg credits the G.I. Bill for the opportunities that helped him succeed. He left the business world to pursue a career in public service and give back to the country that helped give him so much. Lautenberg ran for an open Senate seat in 1982 as an underdog. He overcame the odds, defeated an establishment candidate and was sworn in to serve the first term of what would become a historic five-term Senate career. He was the last World War II veteran serving in the U.S. Senate.



## The Second Tour of Duty

Senator Lautenberg retired from the Senate in 2000 after three terms and major legislative victories on gun safety, transportation, public health and the environment. After a two-year hiatus from the Senate, Lautenberg was elected again to the U.S. Senate in 2002 – and then re-elected in 2008.

During this “second tour of duty,” Senator Lautenberg built upon his record of accomplishments that make a real difference in people’s lives in New Jersey and the nation. From a groundbreaking law that revitalized Amtrak to the new 21<sup>st</sup> Century G.I. Bill to measures to help law enforcement track down terrorists seeking access to firearms, Senator Lautenberg continued his long record of accomplishments.



## Keeping New Jersey Moving

Few people in the history of New Jersey have contributed more to the expansion and safety of the state’s transportation system than Senator Lautenberg. Senator Lautenberg often quipped that though he is not a Rhodes scholar, he is a proud “*scholar of New Jersey’s roads.*”

- **Amtrak:** The stability and growth of Amtrak is critical not just to interstate passenger rail, but to New Jersey Transit, which relies on Amtrak’s infrastructure on the Northeast Corridor and the tunnels into Manhattan to bring New Jersey commuters to work. In 2008, Congress passed Senator Lautenberg’s groundbreaking law revitalizing Amtrak and putting it on firm footing for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- **Transportation Funding and Jobs for New Jersey:** In recent years Senator Lautenberg helped author major transportation bills that have increased federal transit spending in New Jersey by 50 percent and highway spending by 30 percent.
- **Hudson-Bergen Light Rail:** Senator Lautenberg championed the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail since its inception, securing more than \$1.1 billion in funding for the project. The project has brought commercial and residential development to the Hudson River waterfront, helping to improve



neighborhoods and increasing access to mass transit and jobs.

- **Secaucus Junction Station:** Lautenberg secured more than \$500 million in Federal funding to create the NJ Transit Secaucus station, which now serves as a common link between most of New Jersey's rail lines, allows Bergen County commuters to transfer to Manhattan and laid the groundwork for a new rail line directly to the Meadowlands for major events.

## **An Unparalleled Legacy of Transportation Safety**

Lautenberg's unparalleled record of making America's roadways and transportation networks safer has saved countless lives and prevents tragic road accidents every day.

- **Changing the Legal Drinking Age:** One of Senator Lautenberg's first major bills to be signed into law was legislation to standardize the legal drinking age across the country to 21 years old. Lautenberg's stand against the liquor lobby has made America's roads safer and saved countless lives.
- **Cracking Down on Drunk Driving:** Our nation's roads became safer again on the day Lautenberg's bill was signed into law that required all states to establish a .08 blood alcohol content limit as the minimum threshold for drunk driving. In June 2008, another Lautenberg law took effect to reduce drunk driving by requiring states to change laws so repeat drunk drivers are required to have ignition interlocks (which prevent a vehicle from starting if a sensor detects alcohol on a driver's breath) installed on their cars and trucks.
- **Preventing Air Traffic Control Privatization:** In 2003, the Senate voted in favor of Senator Lautenberg's amendment to prevent the Bush Administration's dangerous plan to privatize the nation's air traffic control system. Shortly thereafter, the Bush Administration dropped their reckless plan.
- **Newark-Liberty Tower:** Lautenberg secured funding to build Newark Airport's new air traffic control tower to 325 feet, more than doubling its original height and helping controllers keep air travelers safe.
- **Banning "Killer Trucks":** Looking out for the safety of New Jersey families and commuters across the country that share highways with commercial trucks, Lautenberg wrote the law to ban dangerous triple-trailer trucks, sometimes called "killer trucks." These "killer trucks" are now banned from driving on roads in New Jersey and most other states. Lautenberg continued to fight efforts to allow bigger trucks on our roads, and a 2012 law includes a Lautenberg provision requiring the Department of Transportation to study the impacts of bigger trucks.



- **Rail Safety:** In 2008, Senator Lautenberg's overhaul of railroad safety laws was signed into law, requiring railroads to improve safety by limiting hours of service, improving grade crossing safety and requiring new safety technology that will improve safety for rail passengers, automobile drivers and communities near rail lines.
- **Truck and Bus Safety:** The 2012 Surface Transportation law included Senator Lautenberg's provision to keep fatigued drivers from getting behind the wheel by requiring trucks and buses to have electronic on-board recorders to document driver hours in order to ensure that rules regarding driver fatigue are being followed.
- **Airport Runway Safety:** In 2005, following incidents at Teterboro and other airports nationwide, Congress approved Senator Lautenberg's legislation to require the FAA to bring all airport runways up to safety standards. At the time, over half of the nation's runways did not meet these standards. In addition, in 2012 Congress passed into law a number of provisions championed by Senator Lautenberg to increase airport runway safety by requiring the FAA to develop a plan to reduce runway incursions, make airport runway improvements, and develop a tracking system of operational errors and runway incursions.
- **FAA Tech Center:** As a longtime member of the Appropriations Committee, Lautenberg secured millions in Federal funding for the Federal Aviation Administration's Technology Center in Atlantic County, where innovative NextGen air traffic control technology is being developed. The Tech Center is a major driver of the South Jersey economy and is considered the nation's premier aviation research, development and testing facility. The campus contains nearly 4,000 employees and is one of South Jersey's largest employers. In 1997, Lautenberg successfully fought to block a consolidation effort that would have moved the Tech Center from New Jersey to Oklahoma.



## Progressive Environmental Leadership



Senator Lautenberg held one of the most accomplished environmental records in the history of the Senate. Driven by his desire to leave a healthier future for our children and grandchildren, Lautenberg stopped industry from compromising the environment, written laws and created government bodies and programs that have helped make America's air, water and communities cleaner.

- **Toxic “Right to Know”:** When Lautenberg’s landmark “Toxic Right-to-Know” legislation was signed into law, it empowered the public for the first time to know what chemicals were being released into their neighborhoods and immediately changed the way chemical companies did business. For the first time, chemical companies were required to disclose the chemicals that were being released into their air, water and ground. The EPA’s widely utilized Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) database is a product of Senator Lautenberg’s law.
- **Keeping our Beaches and Shore Clean:** America’s oceans and beaches are cleaner today because of Senator Lautenberg’s work in the Senate. When Senator Lautenberg’s BEACH Act was signed into law it helped ensure that a day at the beach doesn’t become a day at the doctor’s office for families, swimmers and surfers. The law required federal monitoring of water quality standards at America’s beaches and created a grant program for states to improve water quality. This follows a law Sen. Lautenberg wrote years earlier to ban ocean dumping after medical waste from New York started washing up on New Jersey beaches.
- **Preventing Oil Spills:** In 2004, after the Athos I oil tanker spill in the Delaware River, Senator Lautenberg wrote a law that tripled the liability limit for shippers that did not use stronger, safer “double-hull” tanker ships. Following another spill in San Francisco in 2007, Lautenberg’s “Oil Spill Protection Act” was signed into law, requiring a double-hull protective layer around fuel tanks on all newly constructed, non-tank vessels, which include cargo and cruise ships.
- **Stopping Oil Drilling Off the Jersey Shore:** Also sensitive to the threat of oil being spilled on the New Jersey coastline from coastal drilling sites, Lautenberg led the charge to oppose and successfully stop a plan that would have opened the mid-Atlantic to leases for offshore drilling. Ultimately, the Department of Interior dropped its proposal and maintained the prohibition on offshore oil drilling in the mid-Atlantic Ocean.

- **Rising Ocean Acid Levels:** In 2009, Congress passed Senator Lautenberg’s law to require the federal government to study and take action on elevated ocean acid levels that are destroying marine wildlife, disrupting ecosystems and compromising fish stocks.
- **Turning Brownfields to Clean Fields:** In order to encourage private investment, Lautenberg wrote a law in 2004 to provide tax incentives for charities and universities that invest in cleaning up Brownfield sites. Determined to return economic vitality to New Jersey’s many abandoned industrial sites, Lautenberg is leading several current Senate efforts to invest in Brownfields, including a new bipartisan bill to be introduced this month.
- **Superfund:** Senator Lautenberg was a long-time champion in the fight to clean up our nation’s toxic Superfund sites. He has successfully pushed EPA to clean up New Jersey sites on the “National Priorities List” (NPL), including the W.R. Grace & Co. site in Wayne Township and the Fort Dix site in Pemberton Township.
- **Trash Along Railways:** In 2008, when unregulated rail waste sites began to proliferate along New Jersey’s rail lines, Senator Lautenberg wrote a law, the Clean Railroad Act, to allow states – for the first time – to regulate the health, safety, and environmental protection of solid waste handling at these sites.
- **Great Falls in Paterson:** In 2009, President Obama signed into law Senator Lautenberg’s legislation to make Great Falls in Paterson a National Historical Park. This natural wonder in New Jersey will now be a national treasure under the stewardship of the National Park Service.
- **Green Buildings:** Senator Lautenberg’s “High Performance Green Buildings Act” was signed into law in 2007, creating the Federal Office of High Performance Green Buildings to push the Federal government toward building LEED-certified green buildings that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve indoor air quality, and reduce the overall environmental impact of the nation’s federal buildings.
- **Removing Cancer-Causing Agents from Schools:** Lautenberg’s Asbestos School Hazard Abatement law has removed cancer-causing asbestos and radon from our schools, ensuring a higher standard for environmental health for students and teachers.
- **The Chemical Safety Board:** As a part of the landmark Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, Lautenberg included language in the law that created the Chemical Safety Board (CSB). As a member of the Appropriations Committee, Senator Lautenberg provided the initial Federal funding for the Chemical Safety Board, an independent federal agency that now makes workplaces and

communities safer by investigating industrial accidents and hazards and recommending policies to prevent future harmful incidents.

- **Preserving New Jersey's Coast:** Senator Lautenberg wrote the law to authorize and protect New Jersey's Coastal Heritage Trail, which is managed by the National Park System. In addition, Senator Lautenberg wrote the "Coastal and Estuarine Land Protection Act," which provides federal funding for states like New Jersey that have coastal management plans to protect environmentally sensitive lands. The Senator provided millions in Federal funding for the Gateway National Recreational Area in Monmouth County and the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge in Atlantic and Ocean counties.

### Combating Terrorism and Bolstering Homeland Security



Protecting the people of New Jersey from terrorist attack has long been a focus of Senator Lautenberg. New Jersey's stretch of highway that hosts the airport, seaport, chemical plants and rail lines is considered one of the most dangerous areas for terrorism in the United States and Lautenberg has made significant strides to fortify it from terror threats. In addition, Senator Lautenberg passed groundbreaking laws that punish foreign governments that sponsor terrorism.

- **No Foreign Aid for Terror States:** Senator Lautenberg was a prime author of laws banning foreign aid to countries that sponsor terrorism.
- **Real Sanctions on Iran:** In August 2012, President Obama signed into law an Iran sanctions package that included language authored by Senator Lautenberg that places penalties on U.S. companies whose foreign subsidiaries are doing business in Iran – closing a loophole that allowed U.S. companies to help the Iranian Government profit from its oil operations.
- **Port Security:** In 2006, Senator Lautenberg wrote a law that sought to take the politics out of homeland security funding. Lautenberg's law required that funding of all federal port security grants to be allocated entirely on the basis of risk. This was the beginning of a successful movement to base homeland security funding on risk – not politics.
- **Chemical Plant Security:** Senator Lautenberg wrote a 2007 law to preserve New Jersey's strong chemical plant security laws and allow them to be stronger than federal regulations. The Lautenberg law prevented the Bush Administration from

moving forward with its proposal to preempt and nullify New Jersey's strong chemical security laws.

- **Justice for Victims of Terrorism:** Senator Lautenberg's work on behalf of victims of terrorism spans three decades, beginning when the tragic 1988 terrorist bombing of Pan Flight 103 claimed the lives of 38 New Jerseyans. Following the attack, Lautenberg helped author the Aviation Security Act of 1990, which overhauled aviation security in America. In 1996, Senator Lautenberg wrote a law that allowed victims of terrorism to bring legal action against foreign governments that sponsor terrorist acts. In 2000, he sponsored legislation that helped the Flatow and Duker families of New Jersey recover damages owed them by Iran as a result of an Iranian-sponsored terror attack in Israel. Senator Lautenberg then wrote a law in 2008 to strengthen the rights of terrorism victims to sue state sponsors of terrorism and go after their hidden commercial assets for compensation. This law was widely credited with bringing Libya to the negotiating table, which resulted in the Libyan Claims Resolution Act, a new law that implemented a final settlement agreement and resolved all outstanding U.S. terrorism claims against Libya, including the amount owed by Libya for the 1988 Pan Am 103 bombing. Later in 2008, this new settlement agreement was signed by both countries and Libya deposited into a U.S. account the amounts it owed to settle cases brought by U.S. terror victims.
- **Transportation Security Lab in Atlantic County:** Following passage of the Aviation Security Act in 1990, Lautenberg saw to it that this lab, which opened in 1993, was located in New Jersey at the FAA Technical Center in Atlantic County. The Transportation Security Lab (TSL) today remains a major employer in South Jersey.
- **Newark-Liberty Airport Security Screening:** In 2007, Senator Lautenberg's legislation to remove arbitrary caps on the number of baggage screeners was signed into law, allowing the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to hire more screeners for Newark Airport and other airports around the country. Following a security breach at Newark in 2010, Lautenberg wrote legislation that was signed into law to increase the use of security cameras, further fortify secure "exit lane" areas in airports that were vulnerable to breaches, and increase penalties for security breaches.



## Protecting Families from Gun Violence

Senator Lautenberg was one of the few members of Congress to have ever handed the NRA a defeat, and will continue to make gun safety reform a top legislative priority. As Congress debated new gun legislation in the wake of the Newtown tragedy, Senator Lautenberg drafted some of the leading ideas, such as a ban on high-capacity gun magazines.



- Domestic Violence Gun Ban:** Senator Lautenberg authored the law banning people convicted of misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence from possessing or purchasing a firearm. Lautenberg's law, passed in 1996, is the only significant gun safety legislation to pass Congress since the Assault Weapons Ban in 1994. This Lautenberg law has denied guns to domestic abusers more than 200,000 times. In February 2009, the United States Supreme Court upheld Senator Lautenberg's law and rejected arguments by the gun lobby and a convicted domestic abuser that would have allowed domestic abusers to rearm themselves with guns. Senator Lautenberg submitted an amicus brief to the Court in defense of his law.
- Terrorist Access to Guns:** In 2005, after Senator Lautenberg exposed that the Bush Administration was blocking law enforcement from retrieving data about gun purchases by people on the terrorist watch list, the Department of Justice changed its policies, and now provides information to law enforcement when suspected terrorists purchase weapons through a gun dealer.

## Promoting Public Health and Access to Healthcare

Outraged by the powerful tobacco lobby's profiteering at the expense of the health of millions of Americans, including children, Senator Lautenberg led the charge in Congress to finally stand up to Big Tobacco and protect the public health.



- Smoking on Airplanes:** In his first term, in 1987, Senator Lautenberg wrote the groundbreaking law banning smoking on airline flights lasting two hours or less – a concept that seems unthinkable now but was commonplace for decades. Two years later, in 1989, Senator Lautenberg wrote the law expanding the ban to 99 percent of domestic flights. These first significant defeats of the powerful tobacco lobby in Congress ignited a smoke-free revolution, which continues to this day.

- **Smoking in Federal Facilities:** Senator Lautenberg wrote the 1994 law banning smoking in all buildings that house federally-funded programs that serve children. He also drafted legislation to ban smoking in federal buildings, which was adopted as an executive order by the Clinton Administration in 1997. In 2008, at Senator Lautenberg's request, the U.S. Senate complex – the last civilian Federal facility to allow smoking – stopped selling tobacco products and closed all of its “smoking rooms.”
- **FDA-Tobacco Legislation:** In June 2009, President Obama signed into law comprehensive tobacco legislation that contained provisions long advocated by Senator Lautenberg, such as giving the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authority to regulate the sale and distribution of tobacco products and preventing cigarette makers from targeting children in their advertising and marketing and making false claims to the public. Senator Lautenberg attended the signing ceremony at the White House with one of his grandchildren, proud to pass on the legacy of a healthier future.
- **Saving Health Insurance for New Jersey Children:** In January 2009, Senator Lautenberg successfully led the fight on the Senate floor to defeat an amendment by Senator Jim Bunning (R-KY) that would have eliminated health coverage for 3,200 children specifically in New Jersey. Sen. Bunning argued that the Children's Health Insurance Program in New Jersey was too generous and needed to be cut back.
- **Health Care for 9/11 First Responders:** Senator Lautenberg was a leading cosponsor and champion of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010. This law will pay for the monitoring and treatment of health conditions that resulted from the 9/11 World Trade Center attacks for first responders and community residents.
- **Enacting Major Health Care Reform for New Jersey Families:** In 2010 President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law. Numerous provisions in the law were championed by Senator Lautenberg, including a study to consider a state's cost of living when determining subsidy levels, banning insurance companies from denying coverage to children based on pre-existing conditions, and funding comprehensive sex education.



## Standing Up For Fellow Veterans and Military Families



Lautenberg was a proud member of the Greatest Generation and the last of 115 World War II veterans to serve in the U.S. Senate. Lautenberg credits the G.I. Bill for the opportunities he's had to succeed in business and public service and is a tireless fighter for America's military members and veterans.

- **A New G.I. Bill for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:** Senator Lautenberg was a prime author of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century G.I. Bill, which became law in 2008 and greatly improved education benefits for veterans who have served since 9/11. A thankful recipient of the first G.I. Bill, Senator Lautenberg was eager to help create the next "Greatest Generation" by helping thousands of new veterans afford a college education.
- **Stopping Unfair Bush Administration "Stop-Loss" Policies:** Senator Lautenberg stood up for military members in Iraq and Afghanistan who were not being fairly compensated when their service contracts were involuntarily extended in a policy known as "Stop-Loss." Lautenberg wrote a law in 2009 that ensured bonus payments of \$500 per month were retroactively distributed to thousands of military members and their families for service that was extended beyond the time of their service contracts. Senator Lautenberg also worked to end the "stop loss" policy altogether – and after he wrote to Defense Secretary Gates in February 2009, Gates announced the military would end the policy.
- **Reimbursing for Body Armor:** When Senator Lautenberg learned that family members and friends were buying body armor, global positioning devices and even weapons for military personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan, he went to work in Washington. Lautenberg co-wrote legislation that was signed into law in 2004 to reimburse their purchases and demanded that our soldiers be better equipped.
- **Affordable Healthcare for Military Families and Veterans:** Senator Lautenberg wrote a 2006 law to stop the Bush Administration's planned 67 percent increase in co-payments for the Defense Department's TRICARE prescription drug program and wrote a separate law in 2007 that stopped a planned increase on TRICARE enrollment fees. In addition, a January 2013 law included provisions of Senator Lautenberg's "Military Health Care Protection Act" to prevent the Department of Defense from imposing exorbitant increases on TRICARE health care fees for military retirees.

- **Mental Healthcare for Returning Veterans:** Senator Lautenberg also addressed the alarming mental health issues plaguing today's veterans by working with the Department of Defense in 2011 to create Vets4Warriors, a national peer-to-peer military support hotline to reduce suicides and provide other services. Vets4Warriors was based on New Jersey's successful program and Senator Lautenberg ensured that the New Jersey administrators of the program were provided a leadership role in development of the national program.

## Rebuilding After Superstorm Sandy

- **Helping New Jersey Rebuild Stronger After Superstorm Sandy:** Senator Lautenberg was a co-author of the Superstorm Sandy disaster aid package, which provided a total of \$60.2 billion to help New Jersey and other states rebuild stronger from Superstorm Sandy. This package provided: \$16 billion for Community Development Block Grants to help rebuild homes, businesses, and public infrastructure; \$5.3 billion to construct new and improve existing beach replenishment projects, conduct flood risk studies, and restore waterways; \$13 billion to rebuild and strengthen transportation infrastructure; and a \$9.7 billion increase in the National Flood Insurance Program's borrowing authority.



## Human Rights and International Law

- **Protecting Religious Refugees:** Taking action on the historical mistreatment of persecuted religious minorities, Lautenberg wrote what is now known as the "Lautenberg Amendment for Refugees." The law is a major humanitarian breakthrough that has provided refuge in the U.S. for more than 400,000 religiously persecuted Soviet Jews, evangelical Ukrainians, Iranian Baha'is and others.
- **Sean Goldman:** Senator Lautenberg successfully fought to reunite David Goldman of New Jersey with his son, Sean. Sean was taken to Brazil by his mother in 2004 and illegally kept there without his father's permission. In 2009, after several frustrating years of legal wrangling, Senator Lautenberg decided to block legislation benefiting Brazil until the case was resolved. When a bill to remove U.S. tariffs on \$2.75 billion worth of Brazilian goods came to the Senate, Senator Lautenberg blocked it. The Brazilian government relented and ordered Sean to be returned to his father. Lautenberg then allowed the tariff bill to proceed.